



A Brief History of the Museum

The Louisiana State Exhibit Museum opened in 1939 in the days of the New Deal public works program.

The circular building is noted for its architecture which combines Neoclassical and Modern design. Architects were Edward F. Neild, D.A. Somdal and Ed F. Neild Jr., all of Shreveport.

The museum highlights 18 world-renowned dioramas created from beeswax by the museum's second director, the late Dr. Henry Brainerd Wright.

Many exhibits, large murals of Louisiana scenes and the Indian Gallery are other points of interest.

An auditorium with a spacious stage and seating capacity for 330 people is available for meetings.

This public document was published at a total cost of \$1,671.62. Ten thousand copies of this public document were published in the first printing at a cost of \$1,671.62. The total cost of all printings of this document including reprints is \$1,671.62. This document was published for Secretary of State, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9125 by the DOA State Printing Office to promote the museum, its exhibits and events under the authority of special exception by the Division of Administration. This material was printed in accordance with standards for printing by state agencies established pursuant to R.S. 43:31. Printing of this material was purchased in accordance with the provisions of Title 43 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

Welcome!



Smithsonian Institution
Affiliations Program

Museum Hours:
Monday - Friday
9 a.m. - 4 pm.

Saturday - Sunday
Noon - 4 p.m.

FREE
Admission!

Wheelchair Accessible
Adjacent to Fairgrounds

<http://sos.louisiana.gov/museums>

Louisiana State Exhibit Museum



An up close look at
Louisiana
Today...and Yesterday

3015 Greenwood Road
Shreveport, La.
318-632-2020



Jay Dardenne
Secretary of State



Frescoes

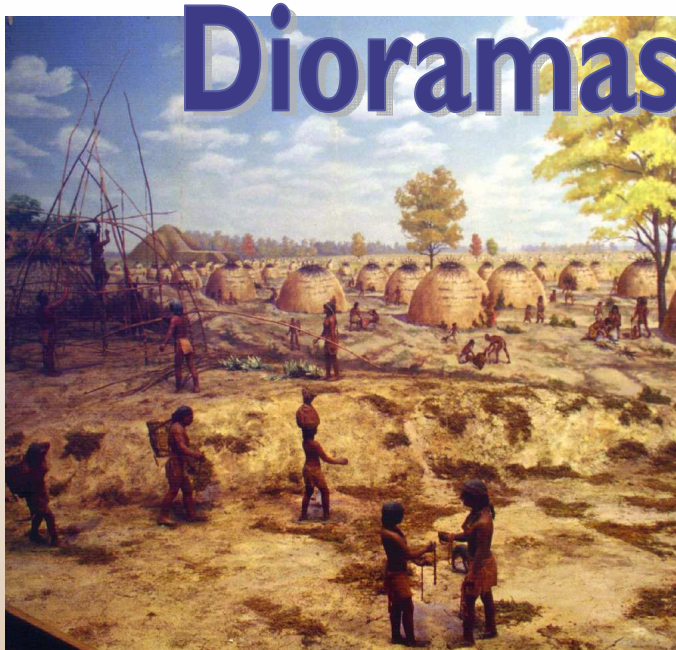
Frescoes at the main entrance, by noted artist Conrad Albrizio, set the mood for what you will see inside — a glance back to earlier methods of industry and agriculture that sparked the state's economy during the 1930s.

At the left of the entrance, a woman stands before images of widespread agricultural activity from the southern part of the state, in addition to landmarks such as the St. Louis Cathedral in New Orleans.

At the right of the entrance, a sturdy lumberjack who represents north Louisiana's vast timber industry stands before a background of the Long-Allen Bridge over the Red River in Shreveport, the Caddo Parish Courthouse and other attractions.



Cotton Field Diorama



(Above) The Poverty Point site in northeast Louisiana near Epps was built by native Americans between 1500 and 600 B.C. See this large diorama in the Native American Gallery.

Cotton is now scientifically produced on large farms, unlike the hand and mule labor harvesting of olden days. The cotton diorama to the left showcases early methods of farming.

(Below) Sportsman's Paradise is a term often used to describe Louisiana, which is abundant with wild-life. The state is located on the Mississippi Flyway, a natural route for water fowl to make their semiannual migrations. Fishing inland and on the Gulf of Mexico round out sportsmen's activities.



Wildlife Diorama



Exhibits

You'll see exhibits in showcases in the center of the circular hallway, in wall cases or standing alone, as is the case with an early doctor's buggy. There are traveling exhibits that rotate regularly including several Smithsonian exhibits. Many are a mirror of the culture native to Louisiana covering Indian pottery and other crafts and costumes. In addition, historical murals adorn the corridor walls.



A topographical map of Louisiana, 14 feet in circumference, greets visitors at the front entrance. It has been part of the museum since it opened, and has been recently restored.